

2017 Housing Pulse Survey



This survey, which measures consumers' attitudes and concerns about housing issues in the nation's 25 largest metropolitan statistical areas on a biennial basis, found that **84 percent** of Americans believe that **purchasing a home is a good financial decision**, the highest since 2007.

Housing Costs

Lack of affordable housing is a growing problem.



Nationally, **44 percent** of respondents categorized the lack of available housing that is affordable as a very big or fairly big problem. In the top 25 markets, more than half see the lack of affordable housing as a big problem. This is up **11 points** from the 2015 Housing Pulse survey.



The lack of affordable housing and the cost of housing is especially troublesome to renters, non-whites, and women. Additionally, housing costs are more of a strain for those under the age of 50 than older Americans.

The majority believe needing public assistance for housing is due to difficult circumstances, not poor personal choices.



Most people who need public assistance for housing are struggling because of low wages, high rents and limited job opportunities.

Buying a Home

44%



POCKETBOOK ISSUES

Forty-four percent of respondents stated that affordable health insurance, low wages, and housing costs top list of problems facing Americans.

40%



DOWN PAYMENT

Little more than **40 percent** believe that banks and lenders require a down payment of **15 percent** or more when buying a home.

51%



BUDGET

When forced to choose, **51 percent** picked a neighborhood with better schools and job opportunities even if housing prices are a strain on their budget.



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When it comes to buying, most people trust their family or friends as a source of information. A **local REALTOR® or real estate agent** is a close second.